

# THE STATE REPUBLICAN.

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## Epitome of the Week.

INTERESTING NEWS COMPILATION.

### CONGRESSIONAL.

In the Senate on the 1st the tariff bill, as rolled, was received from the House with the Speaker's signature, and it was immediately passed by the Vice President and sent to the President. Mr. Morton then thanked the Senators for their uniform kindness to him and declared the Senate adjourned sine die. In the House the resignation of James L. Wheat as postmaster of the House was received and accepted. A Senate concurrent resolution was agreed to requesting the President to enter into negotiations with the governments of Great Britain and Mexico for the prevention of the entry of Chinese laborers into the United States. Speaker Reed then declared the first session of the Fifty-first Congress adjourned without day.

### DOMESTIC.

At New Albany, Ind., two young men, Louis Griggs and John Carroll, stabbed each other to death over a slight quarrel.

Charles Mallon at Columbus, Miss., was mistaken for a burglar by Harry Calhoun, one of his best friends, and shot dead.

At East Liverpool, O., Teemer defeated Hanlan in a one-mile sculling race for a purse of \$1,000.

At a meeting of the National Civil Service Reform League in Boston George William Curtis was re-elected president.

In the ten months' session of the last Congress President Harrison sent to the Senate 3,887 nominations, of which all but twelve were confirmed.

Two men entered an express car on the Cincinnati, Sandusky & Cleveland railway near Urbana, O., tied the messenger, took eleven money packages and escaped.

A COMMITTEE reached Denver, Colo., to solicit aid for settlers in the eastern part of the State. Crops there were a total failure, and many families lacked the necessities of life.

NEAR Saratoga, N. Y., James Denton, a rich farmer aged 53 years, shot his wife dead and then killed himself. He was temporarily insane.

A MAX known as T. J. Henderson died at the house of a Mrs. Pannell, near Birmingham, Ala. On his death-bed he confessed to her that he was Charles William Quantrell, the famous Missouri outlaw, who was supposed to have been killed in a fight with Federal soldiers in Kentucky near the close of the war.

THE Census Bureau announced the total population of the State of New Hampshire to be 375,937; increase, 23,836.

The business failures in the United States during the seven days ended on the 24th numbered 197, against 219 the preceding week and 206 the corresponding week last year.

SAMUEL ECK'S three little children were fatally burned at Topton, Pa. They were locked in the house during their mother's absence, and the building took fire.

MICHAEL MORRIS, 10 years old, died of hydrophobia at Indianapolis, Ind., after suffering convulsions for three days.

THE Grand Beet Sugar Company began operations at Grand Island, Neb., and in twenty-four hours turned out 300 barrels of refined sugar ready for market.

At Chewalla, Tenn., five men were instantly killed by the explosion of a saw-mill boiler.

ACTING INDIAN COMMISSIONER BELT has instructed the agents of the various tribes to allow no more Indians to engage in the "wild west" show business.

DURING the first nine months of 1890 there have been 3,783 miles of new roads added to the railway mileage of the United States.

GENERAL business throughout the country is reported in a highly prosperous condition by a New York commercial agency, a special feature being freedom from unhealthy excitement resulting from speculation.

In New York the grand jury indicted the board of walking delegates of the building trades which ordered the brick boycott last July.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY GRANT, of the War Department, has won the Secretary Buttrick of the World's Columbian Exposition, authorizing in the Government's name every use and enlargement of the Lake Front requested by the management, thus confirming absolutely the dual site of the exposition.

At Marlboro, Mass., two children of Nelson Dion, aged 12 and 4 years respectively, were burned to death by the explosion of a lamp.

W. L. MARTIN, aged 32 years, was hanged at Raleigh Court-house, Md., for the murder of his wife.

It is announced that when Congress reassembles Postmaster-General Wamseller will advocate the reduction of letter postage to one cent.

THIRTEEN cocks broke out of an inclosure in Lancaster County, Pa., ran down a railroad track and all were killed.

CHARLES WILLIAMS, a colored boot-black of Bridgeport, Conn., has fallen heir to a fortune of over \$60,000.

CATERpillars have eaten every leaf from twenty-five acres of oak trees near Kalamazoo, Mich. The worms were moving westward.

THE Ottumwa (Ia.) base-ball club has won the pennant in the Illinois and Iowa League.

Mrs. ELLIS JOLLIFF, of Chicago, found in Providence, R. I., a daughter for whom she had been searching eighteen years.

THE Players' and National leagues base-ball season closed on the 4th, the clubs finishing in the following order: Players' League—Boston, .635; Brooklyn, .575; New York, .565; Chicago, .547; Philadelphia, .538; Pittsburgh, .528; Cleveland, .423; Buffalo, .373. National League—Brooklyn, .606; Chicago, .610; Philadelphia, .593; Cincinnati, .583; Boston, .575; New York, .580; Cleveland, .525; Pittsburgh, .471. In the American Association Louisville won the pennant.

THE potato crop in Northern Michigan was said to be the largest record.

THE local United States authorities at Boston, Mass., have begun a stringent enforcement of the new lottery law.

At Johnsbury, Pa., a fire started by natural gas destroyed the business portion of the town.

BISMARCK, a \$5,000 stallion, was killed at the Marlboro (O.) fair in a collision with a buggy and driver Myers was fatally injured.

At the leading clearing-houses in the United States the exchanges during the week ended on the 4th aggregated \$250,570,193, against \$1,174,037,012 the previous week. As compared with the corresponding week of 1889 the increase amounted to 9.6.

WILLIAM O'DONNELL and John Pomeroy fought about a woman named Mrs. Anna Myers at her house in St. Louis and both men were killed.

THE German-Americans in St. Louis celebrated on the 8th the anniversary of the landing of the first Germans in this country. Fully 50,000 men were in the procession.

CAPITALISTS have organized to build a railroad from Fort Wayne to Terre Haute, Ind., and 1800 Southwestern Illinois.

THE police of Newark, N. J., ejected Hart Most from a saloon where he was about to address some rabid Socialists and forced him to leave the city.

FIVE persons were killed and thirty injured near Toulon, France, by the bursting of a reservoir.

THE R. S. Heath oat-meal mill at Los Molinos, Ia., was burned, causing a loss of \$125,000.

ADRIEN YENKES died suddenly at Nashville, Mich., and his uncle, Clark Griswold, while standing gazing at the corpse tottered and fell dead.

THE THOMAS miners in Marquette County, Mich., struck for a reduction of working hours.

A LARGE portion of the town of Lawrence, Grant County, Minn., has been devastated by a prairie fire.

THE residence of John McElree at Dubuque, Ia., was destroyed by fire, and his wife and three children perished in the flames.

THE dead bodies of a negro man aged 70 years and his daughter, aged 40, were found near Belleville, Ill. They had been murdered.

THE Census Bureau gives the population of Indianapolis, Ind., at 107,445, an increase of 32,889 in the past ten years.

THE patent-medicine firm of Fleming Bros., at Pittsburgh, Pa., has failed for \$500,000.

A CIRCULAR was read in the Catholic churches of the Covington (Ky.) diocese stating that the church's objections to secret societies would not be insisted upon with reference to any except the Masons.

J. H. KAISER, an aeronaut, made a balloon ascension at Louisville, Ky., and when half a mile high dropped from his air-ship, but his parachute would not open and he was fatally injured.

TOMMY O'BROURKE, a child who was lost in the woods of Benton County, Minn., was found nearly starved, he having eaten nothing but acorns for nine days.

JOHN ROACH'S ship-yards at Chester, Pa., have been sold to an English syndicate for \$2,500,000.

BILL HOWARD, under sentence of death for murder, escaped from the jail in Greenville, S. C., by donning his wife's clothing, and having been permitted to visit him.

WHILE trying to arrest some colored toughs who were fighting two St. Louis policemen were killed and two negroes were fatally hurt.

THE visible supply of grain in store in the United States on the 6th was: Wheat, 17,050,092 bushels; corn, 8,721,426 bushels.

DUNBAR a fire in a St. Louis grocery store at twenty-five gallon tank of coal oil exploded, blowing an entire wall into the street and injuring eleven persons, two fatally.

THE annual report of Commissioner Green B. Baum, of the Pension Bureau, shows that there were at the end of the last fiscal year 537,944 pensioners borne upon the rolls.

THE issue of silver from the mints during the week ended October 4 was \$201,524. The issue of standard silver dollars during the corresponding period of last year was \$1,254,025.

THE foundation of the first German colony in America, 307 years ago, was celebrated by people of that nationality throughout the country on the 6th.

THE Census Bureau gives the population of the following States: California, 1,204,002; increase, 329,308. Michigan, 2,089,792; increase, 452,855. Indiana, 2,189,030; increase, 210,729. Territory of New Mexico, 144,862; increase, 35,297.

In a shooting affray growing out of politics at Livingston, Tex., one man was killed and three fatally injured.

PRESIDENT WOODRUFF, of the Mormon church, issued an order forbidding further polygamous marriages in the church.

At St. Louis Alice Gabriel was run over by a construction train at a crossing and ground to pieces and her mother in trying to rescue her was fatally hurt.

A SALOON at Morgantown, Ind., was blown up by a heavy charge of dynamite said to have been placed by residents of the village.

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL.

CONGRESSIONAL nominations were made on the 2d as follows: Massachusetts, Eleventh district, T. G. Spaulding (Rep.). New York, Fifteenth district, Henry Bacon (Dem.); Twenty-sixth, George W. Ray (Rep.). Pennsylvania, Eighth district, William Mitchell (Dem.) renominated; Indiana, Third district, W. J. Durham (Rep.). Kentucky, Tenth district, R. C. Hill (Rep.). Louisiana, Second district, Matthew B. Logan (Dem.); Fourth, T. J. Guice (Farmers' Alliance). California, Fourth district, John T. Cutting (Rep.). Ohio, Eighth district, W. N. Liken (Farmers' Alliance).

EX-GOVERNOR PHILIP FRANCIS THOMAS, of Maryland, who was Secretary of the Treasury under President Buchanan, died at Baltimore, aged 89 years.

GEORGE W. EMMERTS, the great trapper and scout who was the first to bring Oregon into notice, died at Portland, aged 80 years.

GEORGE HANCOCK, the historian, celebrated his 90th anniversary on the 3d at his home in Newport, R. I.

THE Congressional nominations on the 4th were: Kentucky, First district, Edgar T. Frank (Rep.); Eleventh, John B. Wilson (Rep.). Pennsylvania, Sixth

district, Thomas W. Pierce (Dem.); Fifteenth, C. W. Canfield (Dem.).

THE Count of Paris, the Duke of Orleans and other French dignitaries have arrived in New York.

Mrs. JAMES LALRY died at her home at Easton, Conn., at the age of 110 years.

THE Congressional nominations on the 4th were: Ohio, Fifth district, John Smith (Farmers' Alliance); Twenty-first, Thomas L. Johnson (Dem.). Virginia, Sixth district, W. S. Shelburn (Pro.). Wisconsin, Eighth district, W. T. Murray (Pro.). Missouri, Ninth district, Seth W. Cobb (Dem.). Kentucky, Fourth district, A. R. Montgomery (Dem.) renominated; Illinois, Fifth district, Jacob Halseh (Dem.). Massachusetts, Sixth district, William Everett (Dem.). Pennsylvania, Ninth district, Rev. W. D. Gross (Pro.); Twenty-fifth, H. W. Dunn (Dem.). New York, Twenty-second district, Henry P. Forbes (Pro.); Thirty-first, James W. Wadsworth (Rep.) renominated; Thirty-fourth, Hiram Smith (Dem.).

CAPTAIN JOHN LATOUCHE, who was Adjutant of Libby prison during the late war, died at Richmond, Va., aged 70 years.

At the city election in Covington, Ky., J. E. Thomas (Rep.) was elected mayor by a majority of 140. This was the first Republican mayor in twenty-five years.

BISHOP R. H. WILMERE of the Episcopal diocese and Mrs. Wilmer celebrated their golden wedding at Mobile, Ala.

ELLES GREGORY died at Knoxville, Tenn., aged over 100 years. She was born in Ireland.

JOHN W. FURNESS, has called an extra session of the Ohio Legislature, to convene on the 14th inst., to deal with members of the Cincinnati board of public works accused of boodling.

SPEAKER DANIELS, of the Oklahoma Territory, died at his home in Oklahoma City on the 6th and would not return to Guthrie, as his life had been threatened in case he should do so.

THE threat grew out of the contest over the location of the capital.

CONGRESSIONAL nominations on the 6th were as follows: New York, Fifteenth district, John F. Helvin (Pro.); Sixteenth, W. W. Smith (Pro.); Twenty-ninth, D. Page (Dem.); Thirty-fourth, Hiram Smith (Dem.). Wisconsin, First district, L. M. Miller (Dem.). Kentucky, Second district, H. R. Rowland (Farmers' Alliance).

FOREIGN.

JEAN BAPTISTE KARE, the well-known French author, died in Paris.

THE death of a negro whose age was 125 years is reported from Antonio De Los Barrios, Cuba.

A STORM in Germany did great damage to property in Berlin and Hamburg, and in the latter city five persons were drowned.

A FIRE at Sydney, N. S. W., destroyed the buildings of the City Bank, the Athenaeum Club and many others. Loss, \$1,500,000; insurance, \$750,000.

OFFICIAL statistics show that there were 1,814 fresh cases of cholera in Spain during September and 950 deaths. Since the outbreak of the epidemic there have been 4,870 cases and 2,516 deaths.

IRISH Nationalists held a meeting at Dublin and appointed a committee to visit America. An appeal for help was made.

THE Guatemalans and Salvadorians are fighting again on the frontier, owing to the inability of the Guatemala Government to exchange prisoners with San Salvador.

THE British steamer Ouse collided with and sunk a bark off Flushing, Eng., and the whole crew of the bark, numbering twelve men, were drowned.

LATER NEWS.

THE Dupont Powder Works near Wilmington, Del., together with the adjacent town of Rockland, were completely destroyed, on the 7th, by the explosion of nearly ten tons of powder. Twelve persons were killed, twenty seriously, and scores slightly wounded. Loss, estimated, \$500,000.

THE steamer Aloma of the Mallory line arrived at New York, on the 7th, from Galveston with her cargo of cotton on fire. After landing her passengers in safety by means of a tug, she proceeded to the Erie Basin, where her hold was flooded by the fire tugs. She has 5,000 bales of cotton on board.

Spain will not make a special treaty with the United States in regard to the West Indian trade without extending the same privileges to European nations' with whom Spain has treaties containing the "most favored nation" clause as to imports of Spanish colonies.

A SCULLION named Ladeera, employed in the kitchen of the Archduke Sigismund, at Grunden, Austria, has been arrested for putting arsenic in the food and causing the illness of the Archduke and his suite, to procure the dismissal of a chef whom he hated.

DURING a panic caused by an explosion in the Keystone Hosiery Mill at Reading, Pa., on the 6th, five of the girls at work in an upper story leaped through the hoistway to the floor below and sustained severe injuries.

Two stowage passengers on the steamer Majestic committed suicide during that vessel's last voyage from New York to Liverpool. The passengers made up a purse of \$550 for the widow and children of one of the men.

PUNTO opinion in Spain favors rosters to offset the effects of the McKinley bill on the Spanish and West Indian trade, and the Spanish Minister at Washington will enter the protest of Spain against the measure.

THE English Government has demanded of Portugal the immediate settlement of the claim of the British African Lake Company for indemnity for the illegal seizure of the steamer James Stevenson.

A PAINT comet was discovered by Prof. E. E. Barnard at San Francisco, at 8:46 p. m., on the 6th. Its position is 19 hours, 12 m., 26 deg. south; motion easterly.

THE National Camp, Patriotic Sons of America, opened a three days' session in Faneuil Hall, Boston, on the 7th.

By a conservative estimate over \$100,000 damage was done by the late prairie fire in Norton County, N. D.

## THE SUPREME COURT.

The Constitutional Amendment for Its Relief.

An Important Measure to be Voted Upon by the People of Missouri at the Coming Election—Reasons for Its Adoption.

It is not generally known that the General Assembly of Missouri, at its last session, submitted to the people a constitutional amendment to be voted on at the coming election, the purpose of which is to afford the much-needed relief to the Supreme Court.

The court is now in arrears on its docket 80 cases. When a case has been argued it takes about two and a half years to reach it in the regular course on the Supreme Court docket. If a new trial is awarded, a second trial will intervene before a second verdict can be had, and in case of a second appeal, which is not unusual, two and a half years will elapse before a second decision can be had in the Supreme Court.

Thus over five years will have intervened between the first appeal and a judgment in the Supreme Court. On a second appeal, if not infrequently happens that a third trial is granted because of errors and mistakes in the proceedings of the trial court, and in that event almost a decade passes before a final decision of the suit and its final determination in the Supreme Court can be reached. The court can not catch up with the docket and thus afford the necessary relief unless its working power shall in some way be increased. An examination of the number of cases brought to the Court within the last two years, and a comparison of the same with the number of cases disposed of, will show the last statement to be true. The work of the court for the last two years—rather, last four terms—may be summarized as follows:

Cases filed October term, 1888, 193  
Cases filed April term, 1889, 179  
Cases determined Oct. term, 1889, 299  
Cases determined April term, 1890, 191

Gain of cases on docket of court, 124  
Total gain in two years, 248

Thus the court, as now constituted, is at this time being already behind 55 cases on its docket, it actually taking 100 days at the rate of thirty-four and one-half cases per year. During the last two years 70 new cases, averaging 35 per year, have been filed in the court, and this number is not likely to decrease in the future. On the contrary, the probabilities are in favor of a steady increase—commensurate with the state's growing population and wealth. It becomes a matter of easy arithmetical calculation to determine the time when the court, at the same rate of loss on the docket, will be 600 cases in arrears, as is the case now with the Supreme Court of the United States.

The present condition of the docket has existed for years, and this has been true notwithstanding the work of the Commission during the two years of its existence, and notwithstanding the establishment of the Kansas City Court of Appeals and the enlargement of the territorial jurisdiction of the St. Louis Court of Appeals. It was expected that the adoption of the Constitutional Amendment of 1881, relating to the Appellate Courts would afford the necessary relief to the Supreme Court; but that expectation has not been realized. It is true that since the adoption of that amendment, cases were not reached in the Supreme Court in regular course on the docket under a period of from three to five years, and that since the adoption of the amendment, cases are reached in the court in two and one-half years. This reduction of time is in part due to the fact that the number of pending cases in the Supreme Court were transferred to the Kansas City Court of Appeals in 1881, and has been since that time. The docket is now growing on the court, and the tendency is to an increase of the two and one-half years period. So it appears that while the adoption of the amendment of 1881 did to some extent relieve the Supreme Court, it did so very inadequately, and if the increase of the docket on the work of the court continues, and what is more, which it has been progressing for the last two years, in no very great time the condition of the docket will be such that the same as existed before the adoption of the amendment of 1881.

It must be borne in mind that the appellate work of this State has greatly increased since the organization of the court. A single statement will suffice to show this. In 1854, that is, from 1854 to 1871, covering a period of fifteen years, there were published forty-eight volumes of Supreme Court reports. Since that time, and what is more, the number of such reports have been issued. Indeed, we have published in the last fifteen years thirty-eight volumes of Appellate Court reports.

The Supreme Court reports, taking the whole series together, will probably contain the same number of decisions per volume as the increase of the appellate work. The fact that the court, since 1871 to the present time, has been composed of five judges, instead of three, together with the aid of the Commission for two years, accounts for the proportionate increase of reported volumes of decisions during that period.

From the foregoing observations it is apparent that the Supreme Court needs a radical and immediate relief.

THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT.

The main features of the proposed amendment are: (1) the addition of two more judges to the Supreme Court, making it to consist of seven judges; and (2) the division of the court into two divisions sitting separately for the purpose of facilitating the disposition of its business.

REASONS FOR ADOPTING THE AMENDMENT.

The amendment, it is urged, should be adopted for the following reasons among others:

1. By reason of the addition of two more judges to the Supreme Court and its division into two branches, with the authority to hear and determine cases separately, the working power of the court will be doubled, and the present arrears in the business of the court can in a short time be greatly, if not altogether, reduced. This is the goal to be reached, and the amendment will undoubtedly accomplish the desired purpose. The loss to estates of deceased persons, to litigants generally, and the injustice done our people by reason of the present condition of the business of the Supreme Court, need no discussion or comment.

2. Our population has increased nearly a million of souls since 1870, and our wealth and resources in proportion, and seven judges are not too many for the State of Missouri's dignity and importance. New York and Illinois have seven judges on their Supreme Court, besides having intermediate appellate courts.

3. The amendment is an economical measure, since it will secure adequate relief at the annual cost of only nine thousand dollars. This is more apparent when it is remembered that the State Revenue fund annually amounts to about two millions of dollars, and out of the 1871 sum the amendment, if adopted, will require an increased expenditure for

the Supreme Court of only the salaries of two additional judges. Appropriations, trivial in importance in comparison with the one here in question, are made every session by the Legislature. No increase of taxation is called for by the amendment, the present revenue of the State being amply sufficient in case of its adoption.

4. The amendment provides for 3 months' needed reform in requiring opinions to be filed in cases at the same time of their submission.

5. The amendment guards against a want of uniformity in the decisions of the divisions, by providing for a transfer of a case to the whole court where a division was direct, or in case of a dissenting opinion. An examination of the last six volumes of the Supreme Court reports shows an average of only five dissenting opinions to the volume, and therefore the reference of such cases to the entire court will not to any appreciable extent interfere with the disposition of the business of the division.

6. The amendment affords the best possible means of relief under the present circumstances, and, if rejected, there is but little hope for relief to be had in the near future.

7. The amendment, by limiting the determination of the criminal cases in general to one division of the court, will require special attention on the part of the judges of that division to criminal jurisprudence, and secure more satisfactory and uniform decisions at that class of cases. Besides, the criminal cases average only about fifty per year, and at least two-thirds of the time of division No. 2 can be devoted to civil cases.

8. The amendment, by dividing the court into two divisions, will facilitate consultation of the judges on cases, and enable them collectively and individually to devote more consideration and reflection to the different cases pending before them. This will especially be true in the case of the criminal cases, which are of a more difficult nature, and justice should be administered with more care and deliberation.

9. The Constitution (Bill of Rights, Art. II, sec. 10) provides: "That courts of justice shall be open to every person, and every remedy afforded to every injury to person, property or character, and that right and justice should be administered with speed, and without delay." The proposed amendment will relieve it, and for that reason, if for none other, should be adopted.

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